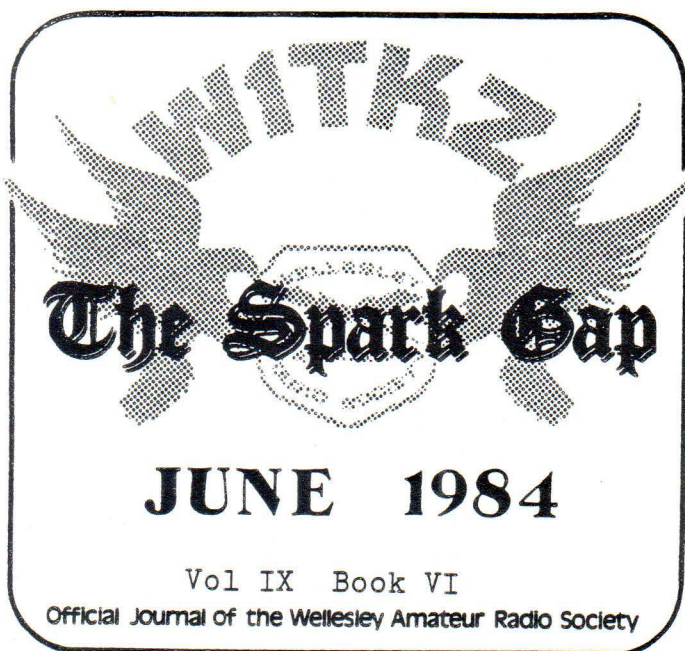




FIELD DAY!

by Nels Anderson, KLUR

Summer is here (or just about) and with it that most traditional of Amateur Radio activities, FIELD DAY. For all of you newcomers, what Field Day is is a chance to practice operation under simulated emergency conditions and especially without normal electrical power. In addition, Field Day is a chance to get together with a group of hams, spend a pleasant weekend outdoors, and improve your operating.

We will be operating from the lawn of the Wellesley Town hall, which provides a nice open area to set up the tents and stations as well as a number of trees to tie off the dipoles to. While not exactly exotic, this location is a pleasant and readily accessible place to operate from.

This year I would like to see Field Day expanded a bit over what it has been in the past. I think it would be nice if we had a cookout on Saturday night which would allow more of you to participate and to let the rest of your family in on the fun as well. The club will provide the grill and

you should bring something to cook for each member of your family and something to share like a salad, desert, chips, etc. So, even if you don't feel like operating stop by around supper time Saturday night.

Also, we will try to do a better job of public relations this year. We are on a readily accessible piece of public land and we should take advantage of it by advertising that we are there and by being prepared to show people around. This will require a few signs and some handouts as well as a few people who are not operating to be on hand. As always, it's to our advantage to show Amateur Radio to the public and in this case we also pick up a few points for the contest.

So that's the story on Field Day 1984. I hope a lot of you will be able to make it this year and help make Field Day a big success.

ANNOUNCEMENT

With the coming of the nice weather, we have decided to try something a little different with the meetings this month. Our first meeting on June 7 will be a fox hunt. For those of you who don't know, a fox hunt involves trying to find a hidden transmitter using direction finding techniques. So read up on direction finding, build a special antenna if you feel so inclined, and bring your walkie ready to go. In order to keep everything in daylight, plan on starting about 7:00 p.m.

The second meeting of the month will be a cookout. The club will provide the grill, so bring along your own food. Family and friends are definitely invited. Again, plan on getting there earlier than normal, say anytime after 6:30. We may also have another fox hunt, so be prepared. This is the longest day of the year (daylight-wise that is), so come out and enjoy Thursday, June 21.

MEETINGS THIS MONTH:

June 7, 1984, at 7:00 p.m.

June 21, 1984, at 6:30 p.m.

211 Washington St., Wellesley

ELECTRONICS EXCHANGE

FOR SALE: Heathkit HR-1680 receiver with speaker, asking \$180. Heathkit HX-1681 transmitter with PS-23 power supply, asking \$190. All equipment in excellent condition with manuals. Please contact Harry Ball, KA3IBU, at 443-5620.

NEW CLUB MEMBERS

This month we have several people we would like to welcome into the club. First, welcome to Michael Rosebury, KALFU, of Natick who recently sent in his application after attending a meeting. Also, several graduates of our recent Novice class have joined the club this month. They are Doug Cooper, KALPF, of Westboro; Michael J. Karp, KALQK, of Wellesley; Richard Blaha, KALQQ, of Natick and his son Dwight Blaha, KALQP. We're glad to see all these new Novices as club members and we hope they will all enjoy their membership. In addition to all the new Novices, we would like to welcome Rich Vitello, WALEQU, of Westboro. Club membership is now 107.

"New Tickets"



We would like to congratulate the following eleven people who successfully passed the exam after our recent Novice class. Several have already received their licenses from the FCC after only a three week wait. Our new Novices are: Richard Blaha, KALQQ, of Natick; Dwight Blaha, KALQP, of Natick; Colleen Higgins of Marlboro; George J. Goldin of West Newton; John Agnew of Wellesley; Roy Crossman of Natick; Joe Murphy of Waltham; Michael Karp, KALQK, of Wellesley; George Vedio, KALLOO, of Needham; Charles Smith of Waltham; and Doug Cooper,

KALPF, of Westboro.

Also congratulations to Rita Baker, KALKJN, who upgraded to Technician during May. We should soon be seeing Rita on with a new callsign and she is already on two meters with a new IC-2AT. The recent exam sessions netted a General class license for Harry Ball, KA3IBU, who also is now on two meters. Paul Monroe, KALLDV, upgraded to Technician. Rich Vitello, WALEQU, is now an Extra. Finally, Duke Hoang has a new callsign with KG6GS replacing N6JBA.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Nels Anderson, K1UR, 872-5259

VICE PRESIDENT:

David Curry, K1TK, 237-2450

RECORDING SECRETARY:

David Kent, N2AWG, 647-9334

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

Allan Bacon, K1BA, 749-4382

TREASURER:

C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM, 332-6091

FUND RAISING:

Kevin Kelly, W1YHV, 242-0341

OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Erik Thoresen, K1OGF, 655-7048

EDUCATION CHAIRMAN:

Art Thompson, KA1ENP, 235-5509

STATION MANAGER:

Bob Drapeau, K1TK, 883-1132

REPEATER COMMITTEE:

Tom Kinahan, N1CPE, 899-5924

Bill Hanlon, N1ADY, 384-8056

Hamnews

The ARRL's Task Force on Federal Preemption visited with several high-ranking officials in Washington in late April explaining the need that Amateurs perceive for a more uniform approach to antenna regulations across the country. Most of the government officials seemed sympathetic to the Amateur's needs, but gave little hope of relief in the near future.

ARRL Letter, May 10, 1984

The Spark Gap

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society



EDITOR:

NELS ANDERSON, KLUR
92 BISHOP DRIVE
FRAMINGHAM, MASS. 01701
872-5259

THE "SPARK GAP" IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. ITS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO KEEP ITS MEMBERS ABREAST OF CURRENT HAPPENINGS, FCC RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGES, AND TO LIST EQUIPMENT OFFERED FOR SALE OR TRADE BY MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE "SPARK GAP" AND MAY SEND THEIR ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR. ITEMS PRINTED IN THE "SPARK GAP" MAY BE REPRINTED BY OTHER AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATIONS PROVIDED THE AUTHOR AND THE "SPARK GAP" ARE GIVEN CREDIT.

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH INSTRUCTION, FELLOWSHIP, DEMONSTRATION, AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF PARTICIPATION. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY IS \$8.00. THE CLUB YEAR RUNS SEPTEMBER 1 TO AUGUST 31. AMATEUR NOVICE AND GENERAL CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY AT NO COST. TO ENROLL IN A CLASS, OR GAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WRITE:

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
211 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS. 02181



MINUTES

Meeting of May 3, 1984:

The meeting was opened at 7:53 p.m. by President Nels Anderson, KLUR, with about 20 present.

The Secretary's report was given.

The Treasurer's report was given, including the repeater fund status.

Several questions on upcoming club activities were answered by the officers in charge, and help was solicited for several upcoming events.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m. For a program, we had a slide show on the Apollo 11 moon landing.

Meeting of May 17, 1984:

The meeting was opened at 7:46 p.m. by President Nels Anderson, KLUR, with

over 30 present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

The Treasurer's report was given.

The election of club officers for 1984/85 was held. The officers for 1984/85 will be:

PRESIDENT:

Nels Anderson, KLUR

VICE PRESIDENT:

David Curry, K1TK

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Tom Kinahan, N1CPE

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

Allan Bacon, K1BA

TREASURER:

C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM

FUND RAISING:

Kevin Kelly, W4LYHV

OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Erik Thoresen, K1OGF

A final request for help for the Wellesley road race May 20 was made.

It was announced that we had been asked to help with the New England Tinman Triathlon in July. After discussion, it was decided that we would be willing to take part and a list of volunteers was gathered.

Mort Cohan, K1IU, gave a report on OSCAR 11 which came back to life early in the week, and on packet radio activity on 10 MHz.

C.J. McDonald made a request for help for the Mt. Equinox auto hill climb on June 9-10, the same weekend as the VHF contest.

Field Day was discussed. It was suggested that we have a cookout Saturday night and invite all the members to bring their families along. In addition, it was decided to take advantage of our centrally located site and try to generate some publicity by advertising the fact that we are there and being prepared for visitors.

It was announced that a special meeting to discuss the repeater would be held on Wednesday, June 6, at the club starting at 7:00 p.m. All are invited.

The meeting was closed at 8:34 p.m.

Public Service

On Sunday April 29 the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society once again provided support for the Wellesley Teachers Association bike-a-thon. This year seven hams were on hand to man the three checkpoints as well as the rest of the course by operating bicycle mobile.

The weather for the event was perfect. A temperature of 75 degrees and bright sunshine made it a great day for a bike ride. Other than a few cases of sunburn, there were very few problems during the day. We did take care of a scraped elbow and popped chain and also made a few requests for the water truck.

Mobile operators this year were Gary Weissel, KALJWE; Scott Nacey, WALYQJ; and Nels Anderson, KLUR. Checkpoint operators were George Joubert, KALJIP who was a first time volunteer; Erik Thoresen, KLOGF; C.J. McDonald, WBLBUM; and Allan Kuong, WALSCS. Thanks to everyone for helping to make the day a success.

May 6 was also a busy day, with two events going on simultaneously. In Brighton we helped with the annual running of the Charles River Run, a seven mile running race around the Charles River. It was a beautiful day for the event as well as a nice setting. We provided communications from various points along the race course and to medical personnel. The race was pretty uneventful for the 900 runners so we had an easy day of it. The afternoon was topped off with a barbeque provided by the race sponsors.

C.J. McDonald, WBLBUM, organized the event this year. Also helping were Kevin Kelly, WALYHV; Scott Nacey, WALYQJ; Dave Kent, N2AWG; Tom Kinahan, N1CPE; Gary Weissel, KALJWE; and Nels Anderson, KLUR. The executive director of the Greater Boston Association for Retarded Citizens, who were the race sponsors, recently sent us a certificate of appreciation for

our help which is posted on the bulletin board at the club.

The other event on May 6 was the annual vintage sports car race at the Hunnewell estate in Wellesley. This is sponsored by the same car club that runs the hill climb up Mt. Equinox. The race takes place along an approximately half mile long driveway on the estate with top finishers completing the course in around 32 seconds. Our operators provide timing and safety information (primarily, letting the starter know when the course is clear). There were a number of exotic cars entered as usual and combined with the nice weather it made for a good outing for our operators.

The operators at this event were Vern Robertson, W1EGE; Erik Thoresen, KLOGF; Bill Downing, WALPQY; and Dick Paret, WALZLQ.

Our final public service event of the month was the five mile road race sponsored by the Wellesley Recreation Department and Holy Cross Alumni Association which took place on May 20. In this event, we stationed operators along the course and in the lead vehicle to keep track of the race progress and to watch for any medical problems. As it turned out, the race went very smoothly and we had no problems to report.

Operators for this event were Harry Ball, KA3IBU, volunteering for his first public service event; Tom Kinahan, N1CPE; Erik Thoresen, KLOGF; C.J. McDonald, WBLBUM; Ken McNair, KALACX; and Nels Anderson, KLUR.

Hamnews

Canada's DOC may abolish all sub-band restrictions for Amateurs north of the border. Removal of the subband restrictions would allow Canadian Amateurs to operate cw, phone or RTTY anywhere on the Amateur bands, subject only to "gentlemen's agreements." CRRL says that this would certainly be a comprehensive solution to imminent U.S. phone band expansion.

ARRL Letter, May 10, 1984

Hearabouts....

The Repeater Committee will hold a special meeting on Wednesday, June 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the club to discuss the future plans for the W.A.R.S. two meter repeater.

There are a number of basic decisions that will be made here in order that more definitive future plans can be drawn up. Items to be discussed include the following:

Affirmation of the present emergency commitments as well as the general purposes of operations. This will determine the level of reliability and the emergency power requirements.

Repeater area of coverage--local or regional. This will determine the power output requirements as well as the antenna height requirements.

Equipment location--single site or split. This will determine the equipment configurations needed.

Added features desired--included here are such items as autopatch, reverse autopatch, remote receivers, cross-band operations, executive input, etc. Here again this will determine the type of equipment required.

Budget or funding methods--donations, assessments, separate repeater organization, part of regular dues, etc. This will determine how ambitious an equipment acquisition program can be.

All W.A.R.S. members are invited to attend this meeting.

--Tom Kinahan, N1CPE
--Bill Hanlon, N1ADY
Repeater Committee

Flea Market

As usual a large group of W.A.R.S. members was in attendance at the Hoss-trader's Swapfest in Deerfield, N.H. which was held on May 12. Despite the poor weather throughout the day there were many people buying and selling, with nearly as many sellers as last

year when the weather was nice.

Several of our new Novices went home with rigs, so there should be some new calls on the bands soon. Other club members did some looking around and buying and selling in addition to trying to keep dry. The club didn't make any profit this time as it has the past several times. Our "junque" is pretty well cleared out now and what we did bring didn't sell (I guess we'll have to reclassify it as "junk"!).

Anyway, the intermittent drizzle didn't prevent anyone from having a reasonably good time, although the overnight festivities were unusually sparse. While a lot of club members were spotted in Deerfield even more were not. If you've never been, I would suggest you try to make the next one.

Hamnews

Printed copies of the Third ARRL Amateur Radio Computer Networking Conference were received on April 13. Copies are now available for sale at \$10. The booklet has 124 pages of packet-radio papers and a reprint of CCIR 476-3 -- the basic specification for AMTOR.

The conference was held on April 15 as part of the Trenton, N.J. Computer Festival. The ARRL conference was well attended, and sustained much interest throughout the day.

ARRL Letter, April 26, 1984

Worldwide, 24 hour a day satellite communication by Radio Amateurs may be a reality before the end of the decade. AMSAT announced April 4 that it was negotiating for a major new launch opportunity in early 1986 for a payload capacity equal to or exceeding that of the highly successful OSCAR 10 of 1983. In fact, 1986 may be a banner year for Amateur satellites since additionally the French ARSEN, Japanese JAS-1 and digital PACSAT may all be orbited that year.

Westlink Report, May 18, 1984

Public Service

This summer we have been asked to take part in the fast growing athletic event known as the triathlon. As usual, we will be providing radio communications in order to chart race progress and provide any medical help that is needed. Because of the grueling nature of this event, the medical assistance is especially vital.

What is a triathlon? As you might have guessed from the name it is a sport involving competition in three events. The events are swimming, bicycle riding and running and each event is held immediately after the previous one. The competition we have been asked to help with is called the New England Tinman Triathlon and it begins and ends in Wellesley. It starts with a 1.2 mile swim in Morses Pond on the Wellesley/Natick line, then proceeds to a 56 mile bike ride through half a dozen towns north of Wellesley and finally finishes with a 13.1 mile run through Wellesley, Dover and Natick before finally finishing at Wellesley High School. As you can see, this is quite a difficult event for the competitors and our help could be well used.

The New England Tinman Triathlon will be held on Sunday, July 15. Operators will be needed throughout the day although most individuals will have to spend only a few hours covering a small portion of the event. If you have any free time on July 15 and would like to help, please contact Nels Anderson, K1UR, at 872-5259 and volunteer your assistance. This promises to become a major event and since it is based in the club's own home town it is a good opportunity for us.

CHUCKLE KORNEL

from Dayton RF Carrier, via ARNS

When the last big DX Contest came around I got all worked up and decided to enter and see if I could outdo all

those big DXers. After four hours I managed to work New Carlisle (5 miles) and this smart Alec said, "Your dummy antenna works fine, why don't you hook up your antenna?" After I had cooled down a bit I decided maybe that old zepp with lamp cord leadin needed replacing. What to do? Well, one day when I was taking my before lunch nap (or was it my after lunch nap?) a brilliant idea hit me. I was lying on the solution to my problem! A bed spring! Think of all the wire in there, radiating for me. There must be miles of it in all those coils. What an antenna that would make. Then another brilliant idea hit me, why not a bed spring beam? Come to think of it, they now come in many sizes. A king size for the reflector, a queen size for the driven element, a standard double as the first director, 3/4 size for the second director and a twin for the third director. I could just imagine those big guns cringing when I fire up this.

I still have a little work to do. I haven't figured out how I am going to hang the contraption. However, everyone who can come up with a brilliant idea like this should not have any problems with such details. Maybe I can come up with the solution during my before dinner nap tomorrow. Watch out you big guns, here comes Uncle Augie.

VHF CONTEST

Field Day is not the only big operating event being held in June. The weekend of June 9-10 is the ARRL VHF QSO Party when we will once again be travelling to Mt. Equinox in southern Vermont. Last September we were the third highest scoring multi-operator station in the country and we will be trying to equal that feat in the more highly contested June contest.

I know Vermont is a bit far away, but it is well worth it as Mt. Equinox is one of the best VHF operating sites available. For those of you who have

never tried any serious VHF operating, here is your chance. Everyone is welcome and we can always use more operators.

As always, we will have new and improved equipment including higher power amplifiers on several bands to help break through on band openings and several new rigs to try out.

In addition, the vintage sports car hill climb will once again be held in conjunction with the contest. Operators are also needed for this event to provide safety communications for the participants. This race is really something to see with the many unusual sports cars hitting top speeds of 100 mph on the winding road up the hill.

If you are interested in participating in either or both of these events, please do so. The first group of people will be leaving for Vermont Friday afternoon and the last group will return on Monday. Any time in between people are needed. If you plan on participating, please contact one of the club officers.

Hamnews

On April 16, ARRL Technical Department Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, attended a meeting of the American National Standards Institute C63 ad hoc committee on RFI immunity in Washington, D.C. The meeting centered on developing protection distances between various radio services (such as Amateur, CB and AM broadcast) and TV receivers. The group is trying to come up with meaningful theoretical figures on how far away a TV set has to be from a ham's QTH to be free from interference, a very difficult set of numbers to come up with. These figures will assist the committee to establish standards for making TV receivers less susceptible to radio frequency interference, one of the objectives of Public Law 97-259.

ARRL Letter, April 26, 1984

Radio Amateurs and cordless telephones have made the evening network

news. CBS news reported Bob Schieffer showed a man listening to a telephone conversation on 1707.8 with a Kenwood TS-430S. The news item was well done and lasted a good two or three minutes. This should effectively demonstrate to the public that cordless phone conversations are not very private, and that almost anyone can listen in on their conversations.

ARRL Letter, April 26, 1984

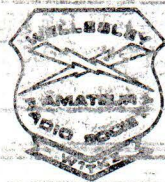
Slow scan Amateur television might be an integral aspect of the next "ham in space" mission, if NASA permits Dr. Tony Englund, W0ORE, to operate during his Skylab Flight in 1985. This information was on the lips of most ATV operators at the 1984 Dayton Hamvention, confirming earlier reports that some form of SSTV encoding device might be carried as part of any future Amateur Radio payload. As previously noted, Dr. Englund wants to add a 10 meter rig and some form of automation to the already flight-proven 2 meter FM gear in order to automate the Amateur activity when he is not available to personally man the station. A format joint proposal from the ARRL and AMSAT is expected to be filed with NASA shortly.

Westlink Report, May 18, 1984

SUMMER

Although this is the last issue of the Spark Gap until the fall, the club's activities do not by any means end during the summer. There will be one regular meeting each month during the summer. The dates are July 19 and August 16. In addition there will be a VHF contest during August on Mt. Equinox, the New England Tinman Triathlon on July 15 and probably some other informal summertime activities as well. The best way to keep up to date during the summer is to check into the repeater every so often, and especially the weekly nets which will continue to be held Sunday nights at 7:00 p.m. on 147.63/03. Everyone have a good summer!

The Spark Gap



**WELLESLEY
AMATEUR RADIO
SOCIETY**

324 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts 02101

FIRST CLASS MAIL